College Library

HAMILTON LIFE

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College

VOL. X CLINTON, N. Y., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1907 No. 5

The Rochester Game

Last Saturday, Hamilton met defeat at the hands of Rochester by a score of 26-9. The defeat was due not at all to the sharp and fast playing of Rochester, but to the listless, lifeless and apathetic playing of our own team. That a team so carefully drilled and supposedly so high class could display even for a moment such a lack of team-play and giving in is almost disgusting. There need be no discouragement, for the team was far below its true form, but it should be a saving lesson pointing out the need of hard, earnest work by the team, and much heartier support from the college. At least three of Rochester's touchdowns were due to fumbling and poor use of the forward pass by Hamilton. Hamilton's scores were due to a clever end run by Welch following some successful bucking on the left of the line. The goal was not kicked from this touchdown. The other four points fell to Captain Holley, who toward the end of the second half kicked a neat field goal from the thirty-five yard line.

A detailed account of the game would reveal only the fact that Hamilton lost her chances to score through loose playing and did not play fast enough to stop Rochester's attack. Being the first game won by Rochester in twenty-one years, the Yellow's rooters were overjoyed and expressed their satisfaction in many songs and yells. This blot on our record is inexplicable, but the team has opportunities still to retrieve its laurels and we look to see them do it.

The line up —

ROCHESTER (26)		HAMILTON (9)
B. Ramaker	Left End	Leavenworth
Jordon (Capt.)	Left Tackle	Osborne
Goodsell (Smith)	Left Guard	Glover
Hunt	Center	Williams
Quinn	Right Guard	Cody (Thomas)
Wood	Right Tackle	McLean
Park	Right End	Wilson
Joy	Quarterback	Holley (Capt.)
Fowle	Left Halfback	Sidle (Richardson)
Pierce	Right Halfback	Welch
G. Ramaker	Fullback	Daly

Referee — McAllister. Umpire — Millham, '01, Linesmen — Tracy, Thomas, '09. Touchdowns — G. Ramaker, B. Ramaker, Fowle 2, Pierce, Welch. Goal from field — Holley. Length of halves — 25 minutes.

From "The Lafayette"

"There was a real game of football on March Field, last Saturday, when Lafayette defeated the strong Hamilton team by a score of 43-0. Though the score is more than twice as large as that by which Ursinus was defeated, yet there is little doubt that if Hamilton and Ursinus met on the gridiron, the former would be victorious by a comfortable score. This illustrates the quality of playing put up by the Lafayette athletes. The game was hard from every standpoint and the score by no means illustrates the closeness of the contest. Greatly outweighed, the visiting eleven played gamely from start to finish, but the Lafayette system was too much for it. From the spectators' viewpoint, the game was intensely interesting and exciting, for long runs and sharp defense brought the spectators to their feet cheering many times. The loyal little bunch of Hamilton rooters won the admiration of the Lafayette undergraduates by their cheering and singing during a losing game.

There were two unique features of the game; one, Captain Holley's (of Hamilton) running with the ball, and Chalmer's touchdown on a walk. Captain Holley gave an exhibition of running through a broken field that we have not seen equaled at Lafayette in the last three years. He was splendid, and gained more ground for Hamilton than any other play or player.

Chalmer's walking touchdown was fully in accordance with the rules. Hamilton kicked off and Chalmers securing the ball was going at full speed when the umpire tooted his horn. Everyone stopped but Chalmers who kept on until he had distanced the other players. He then walked thirty-five yards to the goal. The score was allowed because of a rule which says that the team receiving the ball can demand another kick-off if the opposing team is offside, or can take the ball at the point where it was downed. Chalmers chose the latter."

The Syracuse Game

Today the Varsity plays Syracuse University at Syracuse and no Hamilton man should be absent from this game without a mighty good reason. The team with our hearty support will make a good showing. The men on the team will fight beyond criticism, but without our all-persuading spirit behind them their efforts will be futile. We have a good chance; Williams held the big orange team to 9 points last Saturday and a victory for us is not out of the question. Surely every man of us will do his best to help win a victory if such is possible and if that is not to be, we will take our defeat in a way to elicit once more that trite press comment of "plucky Hamilton."

There is hardly any excuse for not getting up to the game. Even if one has no cuts he may take the 1:30 car from Clinton, catch the 2 o'clock car for Syracuse at the West Shore crossing and arrive in Syracuse a little before 4. Early or late, let every man be there!

Diminished Athletics

Intercollegiate athletics are now being subjected to the preliminary process of reduction. A wave of athletic restrictions has rolled up in some cases so far as to threaten the engulfment of the whole system of intercollegiate sport. And if we inquire for the reason of this negative movement, the answer comes that it is time that athletics dropped back to a normal level of prominence, that daily collegiate events are too highly colored by athleticism, that the American college is convulsed with athletic mania — in short, that the pendulum has swung too far to the side of athletics.

Restoration of a proper balance between athletics and other interests is aimed at now by the adoption of a most radical policy. Thus we are apprised of the heavy bribe offered to Swarthmore to assume the pioneers' path and sever itself from all intercollegiate athletic relations. Information comes that the athletics of Columbia University are undermined to the point of total collapse by heavy restrictions. Periodically we read various utterances advocating the abolition of some form of intercollegiate sport. A decrease in the amount of attention and time devoted to athletics is the ultimate goal.

To deny that the relative importance of athletics to other interests is exaggerated out of all proportion would be to admit a lack of knowledge of the true state of things. A college is popularly measured in athletic units; the athletic spirit is the standard of spirit; it is largely through athletic achievement that the college is advertised. Steady development for about thirty-five years, encouraged by the temperament of the country at large, has produced this athletic inflation. Sudden collapse of this feature of college activity must be attended by a weakening of the whole structure.

Far from condemning, The Record merely wishes to caution. The logical way of reducing attention to athletics is to cut down intercollegiate contests, and this can be done to considerable extent without damaging the plane of sport. But a college which cuts down to an insignificant quantity the status of its athletics, or of any other interest, for that matter, is getting in the way of its own development as an all-round institution. The policy at Williams has been annually to decrease the number of contests by a certain percentage. In the past five seasons of basketball there has been a 30 per cent. decrease in games; in baseball, last spring's schedule showed a decrease of 25 per cent. from the number of games in 1903. This policy is a factor in the contests for the coming seasons. Basketball is to be limited to fourteen contests this year, whereas next spring's baseball nine will only prepare for sixteen games. Diminution at that rate can hardly proceed much further if Williams is to retain its intercollegiate athletic standing. Increased difficulty in schedule arrangement and in the procuring of home games is the natural sequence. Unless there is uniform diminution of contests among the eastern colleges, the single college that essays it cannot easily maintain its ranking. Suggestion is therefore offered that the policy of steady decrease in annual contests be converted, at least for a while, into one of name only, rather than of practice. — *Williams Record.*

1909 Hamiltonian

The 1908 Hamiltonian is a thing of the past and now the embryo of this year's publication is slowly taking form. The board of editors is working hard and undoubtedly a fine book will be the result. Nineteen-nine has a hard task before it to surpass the Hamiltonian of last year, but with due perseverance on the part of the board it should produce a book at least equal to the last publication; that will represent not only the Junior Class but the whole College to the outside world. By virtue of this book, many fellows are either attracted by the allurements of its pages to this Hill or turned away if the book chance to be carelessly composed. It therefore behooves the College not to leave everything on the shoulders of the editors but to help the board in any way possible. Thus everyone will do his part toward making the 1909 Hamiltonian a great success and worthy to represent our College, and the class which sponsors it.

Sigma Phi Entertains

The Beta of Sigma Phi entertained the following guests at an informal tea last Wednesday: Miss Evelyn Stryker of Clinton, the Misses Johnston, Miss Katherine Bellinger, Miss Gertrude Baker, Miss Theodora Childs, Miss Mary Cooper, Miss Elizabeth Hunter, Miss Eleanor Millar and Miss Henrietta Peckham of Utica. Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Sherman served. Sherman and Bastian, '04, and Sherman, '06, were present.

The Football schedule for the season of 1907 is as follows:

Sept.	28	Cazenovia S. 0	Hamilton 32
Oct.	2	Cornell U. 23	Hamilton 0
"	5	St. Lawrence U. 0	Hamilton 10
"	12	LaFayette C. 43	Hamilton 0
"	19	Rochester 26	Hamilton 9
"	26	Syracuse U.	at Syracuse
Nov.	2	Union U.	at Clinton
"	9	Colgate U.	at Hamilton

— At a meeting of the Press Club all the old officers were re-elected: Williams, '08, Pres.; Fraser, '08, V. P.; Wilcox, '09, Treas.; and A. F. Osborn, '09, Sec. Knox and Judson, '10, were the new men admitted to the club.

— The case of G. H. Allen, of Clinton vs. 1910-1911 is progressing fast. A notice has been served upon each class that upon the payment of $45 apiece all proceedings will be stopped and the whole matter amicably settled.

— There is some talk among the musically inclined on the Hill of forming a College orchestra. There are a number of good musicians who play instruments that are too heavy for a mandolin club and it is intended to include these men in the new organization, which will be more suited to some occasions than the mandolin club.

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Reportorial

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J. M. CROSS. J. N. MCMATH

THIS IS THE SEASON of year when the attention of the College world is centered upon football as its leading sport and as a result, other branches of intercollegiate competition oftentimes are wont to suffer. This applies to all Colleges in general but Hamilton in particular. While we would have a football team worthy of the athletic reputation of the College, we must not neglect the training and coaching of our debating team. Cornell, Lafayette and Syracuse may defeat us in football by greater weight and strength but we should be able to regain the laurels lost in athletics by the prowess of our debating team. Hamilton's debating ability is traditional and it is up to us to maintain it. Should we defeat some of the larger institutions this winter, it would do much to advertise the College and influence men to enter Hamilton. Aside from being an advantage to the College the individual benefit is no mean consideration. So while we are absorbed just now in putting out a winning football team, let us not forget the branch of College activity wherein our real strength lies.

SIDE-LINE activities have finally begun to be satisfactory and those to whom the lamentable showing of the first part of the year was a source of grief and pessimism now rejoice. And it should be so. Our predecessors' example should have an indisputable and decisive influence. Last year when someone published an editorial from the Trinity College paper in which was deplored the fact that but twenty composed the cheering force we laughed incredulously and ridiculed the idea. And yet heretofore this year that same criticism could have been justly made of our quasi-spirit. Thank Heaven that such an imputation is now impossible!

Next Saturday comes one of the two games that decide the success or failure, in our eyes, of a season's showing. The Union game has long been replete with spirit and this year will be more so than ever, since our opponents believe that this is the time for vindication of the long list of past defeats. Union will send up a force of over one hundred rooters! Do you see where there is a possibility of being out-yelled! Just think of it! To be out-yelled on our own field when on foreign grounds time and again we have out-yelled the home aggregation! Now do you see why every man should be out with every song and cheer "cold?" We *must* and *will* out-play Union and we *must* out-yell them. *Will* we?

NO DOUBT THE THOUGHT has come to every man in College at one time or another that the advantages and reputation of Hamilton are not as widely known as they should be. Especially does this feeling come to us this year. With the exception of the Athletic Teams and the Musical Clubs, Hamilton does not advertise in any formal way. To be sure, members of our faculty are widely known and frequently speak in public but this is only a very indirect way of bringing the College into prominence. However much we may have prided ourselves in not resorting to any of the common methods of advertising, has not the time arrived to meet this question from a practical view-point?

Upon investigating the number of entering students in Colleges and Universities for the current year we find that the increase in the large Universities over preceding years is proportionately much greater than that in the small Colleges. And from this we conclude if the small College is to hold its own with the larger institutions it must put forth some efforts to attract sub-freshmen. This many of them are doing in an effective manner; but what of Hamilton? Our alumni and undergraduates are always ready to do what they can to turn students this way but still our entering class shows by its numbers that this method alone is insufficient. We feel confident that the advantages of Hamilton cannot be surpassed by any institution of her class and we believe if some means were used to bring her and her ideals more into the public eye we would lose nothing in reputation and would gain substantially in numbers.

IT WOULD SEEM as though some concerted action should be taken by both Sophomore and Freshman classes with reference to the character of "gym shows" which have been held during the present term. In these "gym shows" the pounding which the victims have received has been too severe. The punishment has increased with each succeeding "gym show" and, if allowed to proceed, uncensured, may lead to a show of class spirit which will be equivalent to hazing. Not only may the victims of this form of "gym show" be seriously injured, but, if allowed to run riot, this spirit of punishing the next man you catch more severely than you were punished, may bring dishonor to Hamilton.

Now there is no harm in a "gym show" properly conducted, as we have known it in previous years. This consists merely of making a man do foolish stunts, sing his class scurf-songs, give his "prep" school yell, etc. Such a "gym show" cannot be detrimental to any of the parties concerned, and is good in that it fosters and keeps alive

class spirit. We believe that the better sentiment of both classes is against any approach toward brutality. It is always unwise to publish anything in a College paper which may sound like *hazing*, because fond parents immediately see visions of their son's ascent toward Heaven propelled by a blanket and many are likewise tormented by many other current superstitions. But once in a while animal-spirits and love of fun overcome the native common sense of the underclassmen and then they go too far. No such transgression has yet taken place and we hope that none will. This is only a warning — remember that you are Hamilton *men* and all that is implied in those words.

An Open Letter

The following communication came to our notice. We print it with the suggestion that we think it rather pessimistic.

To the Editor of Life:

When we alumni return from our wanderings to that Hill which is ever so dear to us, we see many things to approve and but few where a voice from the past and gone generations would be appropriate or helpful. The College has been built over in the last ten years, the moral tone is high, Hamilton spirit has suffered no deterioration, and the old traditions seem to hold the same sway as when we grey-beards were freshmen.

But there is one thing which strikes us with an ever-deepening disappointment. The College *does not grow.* Surely there is something wrong here. The buildings are adequate for a far larger number of students than now use them, the able faculty could without difficulty spread their influence and discipline over a much wider area. The reason cannot lie in location, for colleges much less advantageously situated are constantly growing. The reason lies deeper than any question of location. In spite of splendid equipment, her long and famous service in the cause of progress, Hamilton no longer makes herself sufficiently attractive to new students. Men who do not live under her immediate influence, or are not bound to her by family ties, no longer enter her gates in numbers. We are in danger of allowing our Alma Mater to become a family and hereditary college.

And there are many reasons for this. The courses offered are narrow, measured by the standards of the day. The faculty, it is sometimes said, exercises a control which would be deemed strict in any large preparatory school. Worse than all, no effort is made to bring Hamilton's excellence before prospective college men, a thing which I verily believe would be a great and unqualified blessing to both parties. How can a boy, charmed by the alluring prospectuses of other schools, be expected to judge wisely when even our Catalog is so charily distributed and littered up with archaic mannerisms?

And one thing more, Hamilton is no longer an inexpensive College. Democratic it still may be, but when the recently announced rise in the tuition goes into effect, it will be a hard thing for a poor boy to make ends meet. This is only thirty dollars a year less than the tuition in the Sheffield Scientific School, with all its special equipment. And surely this will not lead to an increase in the entering classes. There is not an alumnus of the College who would not be deeply grieved and disgusted, if our well beloved Alma Mater should be turned into a small and select rich man's club.

ALUMNUS.

Basketball Prospects

The football season is half gone; soon will come basketball. The prospects for the team representing this department of college athletics are better than in former years. Last year's Varsity, with the exception of Kuolt, '07, and Moore, '10, is in college. A new team will not have to be developed out of practically raw material, as was the case last year. Among the veterans who showed good form last year are Captain Smith, and Bate, '08, Conklin, Hopkins, Welch, Wilson, '09, Sherwin, '10. It is said, also, there is very good material in the Freshman class. Sidle, Allen, Nixon and Wilder, '11, are reported to be good men. Captain Smith and a few of the men have been practicing irregularly during the past few weeks. Regular practice will start after the close of the football season.

The schedule has not been entirely made out, but it is proposed to take a short trip of easy games during Christmas vacation, in order to keep the team together. This will give them much better form for the first few games of the season.

However, the fact that the prospects for the year are good and that there are veterans in college, is no excuse for every man who has played basketball at any time not to get out. If everyone works hard and does his part, a good team and a successful season is assured.

— The class of 1910, at a recent meeting elected Leavenworth as captain of the class Football team with C. H. Hall as manager and Burns as captain of class Basketball team with Sarles as manager. McMath was re-elected Manager of Track.

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COLLEGE NOTES

— Prof. Sherman was in New York last week.

— Abbott, '10, is reported as being very much better.

— Bastian, '04, and Jenks, '05, have been on the Hill this week.

— Flagler, Curtis and Richardson are out for assistant manager of track.

— C. Hall, Knox, Wills and Stube are out for assistant manager of basketball.

— Chas. R. Millham, '99, and Jesse Millham, '01, attended the Rochester game.

— Fitch, '08, entertained the Greek class at the "Social Whirl" Saturday night.

— The College Quartette will consist of Simmons, '08, Hastings, '10, White, '08, and Prof. Sicard, with Spencer alternating with Mr. Sicard as first bass.

— Prof. Sicard and Renwick, '10, visited the University of Vermont last week.

— J. A. Evans, of Little Falls, has been chosen to referee the Colgate game.

— The first meeting of the French Club was held last week at Professor Shepard's.

— Burt, ex-'10, has passed successfully the entrance examinations at West Point.

— The Blue Book committee has several local trade ads. which it is anxious to sell.

— The Freshman basketball team has received a challenge from Gouverneur High School.

— Stone, Lloyd and Hastings, '10, witnessed the Yale-Army game at West Point, Saturday.

— Blodgett and Butler, '09, attended the Rutgers-Union game. Both Nellis and Bennett, '06, played.

— Latest advices have it that the first coaching possibility for next year is Shattuck, '08, Amherst.

— It has been definitely decided that the Freshman-Sophomore football game will be played this year.

— The College will be grieved to learn that Trippe, '07, has been compelled to return to Faxton Hospital.

— We've talked much here on the Hill about a Debate Council, as a college organization — why not have one?

— The Utica Press last Saturday contained a list of Utica students at Hamilton. There are sixteen of them.

— Lyon, '79, has been nominated by the Independence League for Associate Justice of the Court of Appeals.

— Brasted, Cross, Evans, Harper, Hastings, Lovenguth, Sarles, Volovic and Wills compose the Sophomore Hop committee. Harper is chairman. The Hop will in all probability occur on November 26th in conjunction with the Glee Club concert.

— "Bill" Mahady, who had charge of Commons for three years, will open a lunch room at the foot of Freshman hill.

— The present generation of Seniors recalls no such wholesale purchase of rakes as that indulged in by the Class of 1911.

— As soon as the material arrives, the work of resetting the stone steps of the Chapel will begin. The plan includes a larger top stone.

— Bryant, '09, is again able to be with us on the Hill. For the present he will live at Keck's, but will return to College at the beginning of Winter Term.

— The electric lighting system for the Chapel is approaching completion. The connections were finished Thursday and the system will be in operation next week.

— Capt. Smith called for basketball candidates last Saturday and about twenty men responded. The practice was brisk and several of the Freshmen showed up quite well.

— At a class meeting, Wednesday noon, the Sophomores decided to eliminate the "feather" in their gym. shows. Recent excesses make such a move highly desirable.

— Several '05 men are on the Pacific Coast this year. Speh holds a position with the Western Electric Co. in San Francisco, Merrick is in business in Los Angeles, Miller, '02, is also in Los Angeles filling the position of teacher of French and German in the Occidental Academy.

— Elmer J. Bailey, Hamilton, '05, who for a short time after his graduation taught English in the Utica Free Academy, is now studying at Cornell, and has just issued through Charles Scribner's Sons, a book entitled "The Novels of George Meredith." Mr. Bailey is making himself well known in his special field of work and his friends imagine that since he has entered the field of authorship other books will follow his first one.

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